



Sea Rocket



Florida Native Plant Society ~ Sea Rocket Chapter ~ Serving Central & North Brevard County

January 2014

The purpose of the Florida Native Plant Society is to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.

~ Sea Rocket ~ Board of Directors

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The 17th Annual Space Coast birding & wildlife

Festival 2014

Titusville, Florida • January 22 - 27, 2014 • Eastern Florida State College North Campus



Sea Rocket will not be having a public program in January.
Join us at the 2014 Birding Festival instead!

January Places To Go, Things To Do!

(Note: All future planning can change presently. If in doubt, verify the date and times are accurate.)

Every Saturday: GUIDED NATURE HIKES - 10:00am - For information call 321-264-5185.

Every Wednesday: FNPS Sea Rocket Chapter Nursery Workday—9am-12noon, Call Shari at 321-454-6849 for more information.

January 2: After New Year's Day Beach Cleanup at 8:00 am – 10:00 am. Please come out to help clean up three of our beaches! Denise Song for more information: dsongkbb@gmail.com

January 4: Sams House at Pine Island, Native Plant Hike & Garden Tour, 9:30-11:30am Learn the historic uses of some local plants. Close-toed shoes recommended, www.eelbrevard.com for information.

January 8: Florida Trail Association Hike: Cruickshank Loop Trail— Meet at west end of Lowe's parking lot in Titusville by 8:30 AM. Bring hat, water and walking shoes. Contact jescoffier@aol.com for more information.

January 8: "Emerging Legal Paradigms: The Rights of Nature" 6:00 PM, Brevard Zoo. Sister Pat Siemen will present rationale for establishing legal ecosystem protection. (See page 3 for more details.)

January 11: Enchanted Forest Sanctuary Volunteer Workshop: Basic Birding, 3 to 4pm Volunteers are encouraged to join Naturalist Joe Swingle and observe Central Florida birds and learn basic bird identification! Register at 321-264-5185.

January 13: FNPS Conradina Chapter hosts Dr. Walter Kingsley Taylor, 6:30pm, Brevard Zoo. "[Florida Wildflowers: A Comprehensive Guide](#)" - this is a free event, open to the public. (See page 3 for further details)

January 15: Florida Trail Association Hike: Lake Proctor Trail— Meet at the west end of Lowe's parking lot in Titusville by 8:30 AM. Bring hat, water and walking shoes. Contact jescoffier@aol.com for more information.

January 16: Friends of the Enchanted Forest Meeting, Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 6:00pm, Annual Meeting – All members requested to attend to discuss 2014 plans. For more info, please call 321-264-5185.

January 22: Florida Trail Association Hike: Doris Leeper Trail— Meet at west entrance of Lowe's parking lot in Titusville by 8:30 AM. Bring hat, water and walking shoes. Contact jescoffier@aol.com for more information

January 22—27: Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival.— Eastern Florida State College (formally BCC) in Titusville. There will be presentations, demonstrations, field trips, photography sessions and so much more. Instead of our monthly meeting Sea Rocket will be at the Birding Festival, www.spacecoastbirdingfestival.com

January 29: Florida Trail Association Hike: Tosohatchee South.—Meet at the Lone Cabbage fish camp by 8:30 AM. Bring hat, water and walking shoes. Contact jescoffier@aol.com for more information

Please send calendar items to David Humphrey at brevcracker@gmail.com

For a comprehensive view of Sea Rocket activities go to www.FNPS.com; events, "searocket".

Emerging Legal Paradigms: The Rights of Nature

Brevard Zoo, Nyami Nyami River Lodge
Wednesday, Jan 8, 2014 at 6:00PM

Sister Pat Siemen introduces communities from Bolivia to Pittsburg, PA to New Zealand who are establishing legal ecosystem protection as an essential part of creating sustainable communities. Protecting Florida's waters is a part of this larger international movement whose time has come.

Pat Siemen is a Dominican Sister who serves as Director of the Center for Earth Jurisprudence at the Barry University School of Law in Orlando.

Capacity is limited. Register for this event at: <http://preservebrevard.eventbrite.com>



Dr. Walter Kingsley Taylor to present:

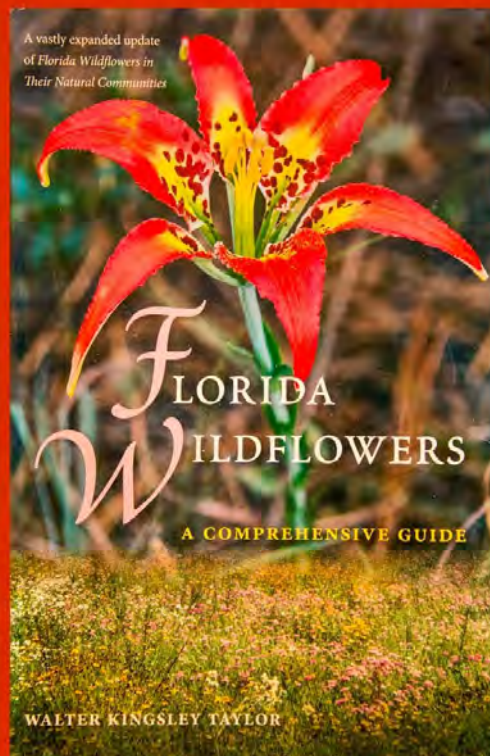
Florida Wildflowers: A Comprehensive Guide

Brevard Zoo Nyami Nyami River Lodge
Monday, January 13, 2014 6:30 PM

Dr. Taylor, Professor Emeritus at the University of Central Florida, will talk about his latest book - his third guide to Florida Wildflowers. He will share his knowledge and passion for wildflowers plus an opinion or two on conservation efforts in Florida.

Public invited. Free event.
No reservations needed.

Hosted by Conradina
Chapter FNPS



design by Vince Lamb

The 17th Annual Space Coast birding & wildlife

Festival 2014



Presented by **The Brevard Nature Alliance**
Titusville, Florida • January 22 - 27, 2014 • Eastern Florida State College North Campus

free event!

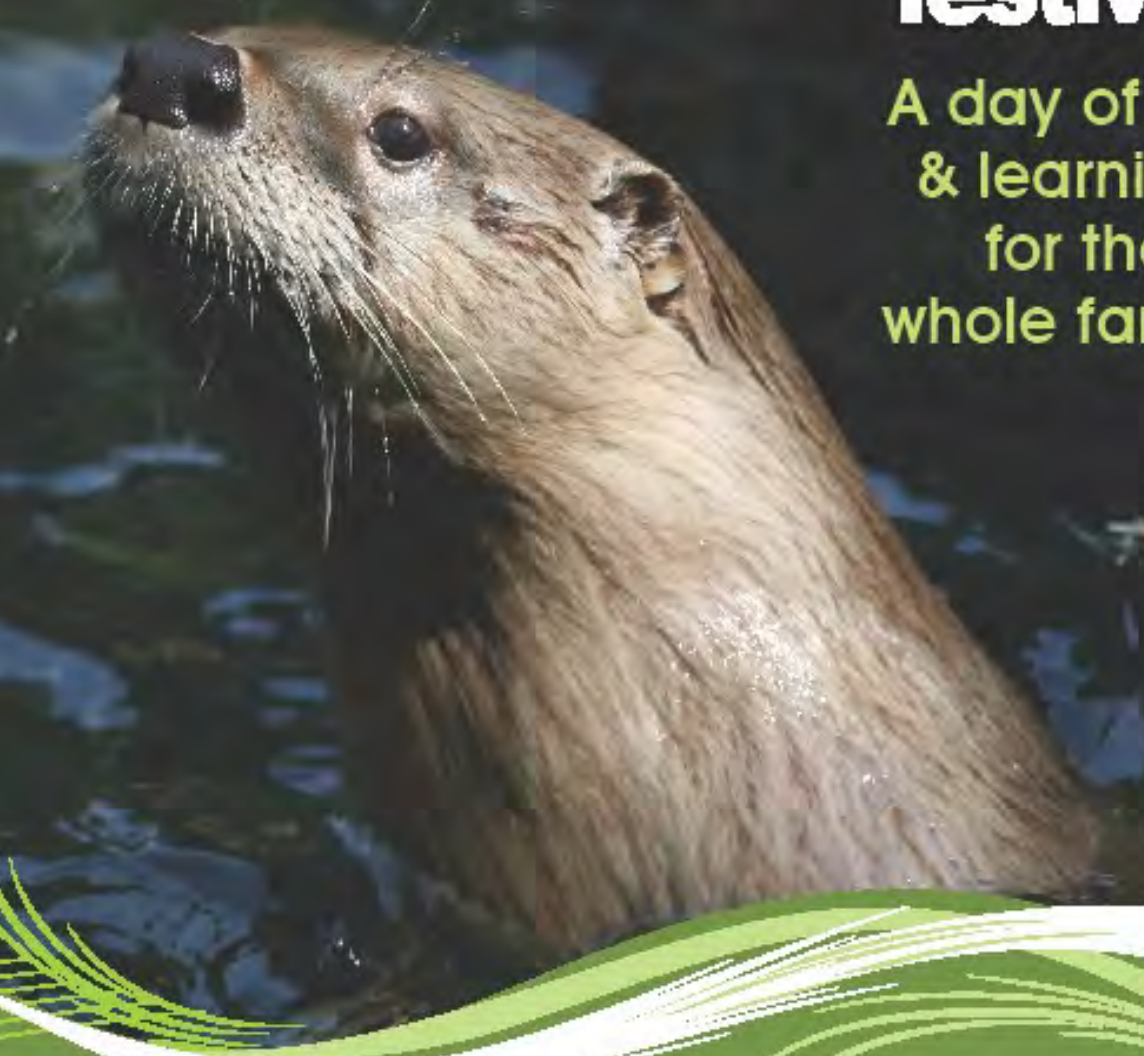


14th Annual

ORLANDO wetlands festival



A day of fun
& learning
for the
whole family!



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2014 • 9 A.M. - 3 P.M.

At Fort Christmas Historical Park
1300 North Fort Christmas Rd, Christmas, FL, 32709

Information: 407.568.1706
orlandowetlandspark@cityoforlando.net
CityofOrlando.net/wetlands



ATKINS





Announcement:

**FNPS 2014 Endowment Grant Research Awards
and Conservation Grant Awards**

The Florida Native Plant Society maintains an **Endowment Research Grant** program for the purpose of funding research on native plants. These are small grants (\$1500 or less), awarded for a 1-year period, and intended to support research that forwards the mission of the Florida Native Plant Society which is "to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida."

FNPS Conservation Grants support applied native plant conservation projects in Florida. These are small grants (\$1500 or less) awarded for a 1-year period. These projects promote the preservation, conservation, or restoration of rare or imperiled native plant taxa and rare or imperiled native plant communities. To qualify for a Conservation Grant, the proposed project must be sponsored by an FNPS Chapter.

Application guidelines and details are on the FNPS Web site (www.fnps.org), click on 'Participate/Grants and Awards'. Questions regarding the grant programs should be sent to info@fnps.org.

Application deadline for the 2014 Awards is March 7, 2014. Awards will be announced at the May 2014 Annual Conference in Fort Myers. Awardees do not have to be present at the Conference to receive award.

**Call for Research Track Papers and Poster Presentations
Florida Native Plant Society 2014 Conference**

The Florida Native Plant Society Annual Conference will be held at Florida Gulf Coast University, Fort Myers, Florida, May 15-18, 2014. The Research Track of the Conference will include presented papers on Friday, May 16 and Saturday, May 17. The poster session will be on Saturday May 17.

Researchers are invited to submit abstracts on research related to native plants and plant communities of Florida including preservation, conservation, and restoration. Presentations are planned to be 20 minutes in total length (15 min. presentation, 5 min. questions).

Abstracts of not more than 200 words should be submitted as a MS Word file by email to Paul A. Schmalzer paul.a.schmalzer@nasa.gov by February 1, 2014. Include title, affiliation, and address. Indicate whether you will be presenting a paper or poster.



Florida Gardening Calendar

Comments or suggestions?
Dr. Sydney Park Brown
spbrown@ufl.edu

January

Central Florida Edition

What to Plant

Bedding Plants: Plants that can be added to the garden during the coolest months include dianthus, pansy, petunia, viola, and snapdragon. See: [Gardening with Annuals in Florida](#)

Bulbs: Crinum, agapanthus, and gloriosa lily bulbs can be planted now. Provide a layer of mulch for protection from cold temperatures. See: [Bulbs for Florida](#)

Camellias: Select and plant camellias this month. Visit local nurseries now for the best selection of colors and forms. See: [Camellias at a Glance](#)

Vegetables: Continue planting cool season crops including beet, cabbage, turnip, lettuce, potato, and broccoli. See: [Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide](#)

What to Do

Deciduous fruit: Now is the time to plant deciduous fruit trees. This will give roots time to develop before the warm and dry spring months. See: [Deciduous Fruit for the Home Garden in Central Florida](#)

Cold protection: Frost or freezes are likely this month and next. Be ready to cover tender plants to minimize damage and make sure covers extend all the way to the ground. See: [Cold Protection of Ornamental Plants](#)

Irrigation: Lawns and landscape plants are dormant and need minimal irrigation. See: [Fertilization and Irrigation Needs for Florida Lawns and Landscapes](#)

Shrubs and Trees: Prune non-spring flowering shrubs and trees this month to improve form. See: [Pruning Landscape Trees and Shrubs](#)

Arbor Day: Florida observes Arbor Day on the 3rd Friday of January. To celebrate, plant a tree in your yard or community. See: [Arbor Day Foundation - Florida](#)

Crape myrtle: While crape myrtles do not require pruning, removing seed pods, crossing branches and small twiggy growth improves the appearance and form of the plant. See: [Crape myrtle in Florida](#)

Pests: To control scale on citrus, shrubs, camellias, and deciduous fruit trees, apply horticultural oil while plants are dormant. See: [Landscape Insect Pest Management](#)

What to Do Every Month

- Adjust irrigation based on rainfall.
- Deadhead flowers to encourage new blooms.
- Monitor the garden for insects and disease.
- Plant trees, shrubs, and perennials and water until established.
- [Mow lawns](#) at recommended heights:
 - St. Augustine & Bahia: 3-4"
 - Centipede: 1.5-2.0"
 - Dwarf St. Augustine: 2.5"
 - [Zoysiagrass](#)

UF Resources For Gardeners

- UF/IFAS Publications (EDIS) <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>
- Florida-Friendly Landscaping <http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/>
- Solutions For Your Life <http://solutionsforyourlife.com>
- Gardening in a Minute Radio Program <http://gardeninginaminute.com>
- Florida Master Gardener Program <http://gardeninginsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener/>
- Living Green <http://livinggreen.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Community Corner

BIRDING FESTIVAL!

Once again Sea Rocket Chapter will be exhibiting at the Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival January 22nd thru 26th. **PLEASE VOLUNTEER** to staff our booth! This is a great opportunity to help with our major outreach event of the year AND join in the fun! Volunteers can participate in free field trips and browse the exhibits. Email Shari at clark109@cfl.rr.com Get more info and sign up!

To the nursery volunteers—

Our nursery is not going to sleep for the winter. In fact we are now preparing for the spring sales event of the year—“**EARTH DAY**” — We will be planting seeds, and general prep work to show the public that native plants can look good and replace non natives in any garden setting. Please consider joining in—workdays are Wednesday from 9am to 12noon.
— Dave

To our members and readership

Before you dig-up, poison, or otherwise destroy unwanted native plants, think about donating them to the Sea Rocket Nursery! We might be able to use them and you'll be keeping extra waste out of our landfills!

LOCAL NEWS.

Audubon Advocates Make Their Voices Heard Central Florida Water Initiative Meetings

Audubon Florida [flconservation@audubon.org]



St. Johns River

This week, Audubon advocates spoke up for Central Florida's **lakes, rivers, and springs** at Central Florida Water Initiative meetings. Water managers modeled the future of groundwater in Central Florida, and concluded that the area will run out of water in the next few decades

unless water habits are greatly modified.

The Central Florida Water Initiative is a collaborative approach between three water management districts, state agencies, and stakeholders to plan a sustainable water future. The draft plan includes a suite of options for water sustainability, but it relies on tapping up to 250 million gallons a day from our treasured rivers and lakes, including St. John's River and the Kissimmee basin. Audubon Advocates at the meetings demanded that our surface waters and springs be protected, that water conservation would be maximized in this plan, and that wasteful lawn irrigation practices must be stopped. **There is still time to make your voice heard!** Comments on the plan will be accepted until January 10, 2014 by Tom Bartol at tbartol@sjrwmd.com.



From the Sea Rocket Board Room

Thank you for your plant donations!

Nancy brought in a Coco-Plum

Dave for the Gaillardia and Sunshine Mimosa

American Beautyberry

or French Mulberry

Callicarpa Americana Family: **Lamiaceae** (mint)

Kal-lick-AR-puh uh-mair-rick-KAY-nuh

By David Humphrey



The Beautyberry is, aptly named as it is a beautiful, versatile bush, adaptable and even functional. The beautyberry takes to trimming very well and will return with full lush growth each year. I use mine as a specimen plant, but can also be

used as a privacy hedge as well. It is noted as a deciduous plant. Here in central Florida with our mild winters beautyberry may not lose all her leaves, but does have a definite rest period before new life begins in Spring. It does not require much, just full sun to partial shade, and xeric (sandy, high organic), or mesic (moist, but not wet) soil types. In the shade beautyberry will grow leggy with bare stems and a poodle puff of leaves at the end. Under good conditions the bush can grow to 8 feet tall. Propagation is by seed, although I have rooted several cuttings with decent reliability. Butterflies regularly visit the white to light pink cluster blooms in the spring. In the fall and winter the berries ripen to their magenta best. Birds love the berries as well. During the winter migration I've seen my beautyberry alive with robins refueling. What a joy to watch. I seen blue jays, and squirrels eating the ripened berries. This plant can grow from sea to shining gulf as it is salt tolerant.

FUN FACT: Florida crackers knew that fresh, crushed leaves of American beautyberry, helped keep biting insects away from animals such as horses and mules. Eventually, some folks took to mashing the leaves and rubbing the residue on their own skins. Recently, scientists have isolated a compound in beautyberry leaves that helps to repel mosquitoes and other biting insects.

Believe it or not!

<http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/AR/archive/feb06/mosquito0206.htm>



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Maple Street Natives

info@maplestreetnatives.com
www.maplestreetnatives.com
www.facebook.com/maplestreetnatives

green images
Florida Native Landscape Plants

**1333 Taylor Creek Road
Christmas, Florida 32709**

407-568-1333
greenimage@aol.com

The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary Education Center

444 Columbia Blvd, Titusville, FL 32780 321-264-5185

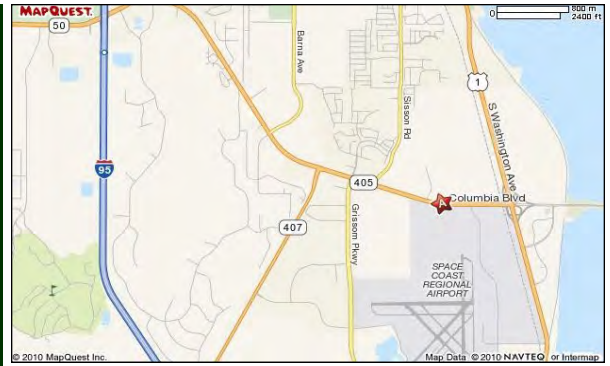


Driving Directions to the Sanctuary:

From I-95 Northbound: take SR-407 Exit 212 east 2.7 miles to SR-405 intersection. Turn right onto SR-405 and go east 1.9 miles (the Sanctuary entrance is on the left 0.4 miles past Sisson Road)

From I-95 Southbound: take SR-50 Exit 215 east. Turn left onto SR 50 and turn right onto SR-405 (2nd light) Travel 3.6 miles (the Sanctuary entrance is on the left 0.4 miles past Sisson Road)

From U.S. HWY 1: go west 0.5 miles on SR-405 in south Titusville. Sanctuary entrance is on the right.



Florida Native Plant Society

For membership information, address change: P. O. Box 278, Melbourne, FL 32902-0278

Phone: 321-271-6702; Fax: 321-951-1941; Email: Info@fnps.org/www.fnps.org

Sea Rocket Chapter mailing address: P. O. Box 236341, Cocoa, FL 32923-6341



NOJANUARY PROGRAM DUE TO THE
2014 SPACE COAST BIRDING & WILDLIFE FESTIVAL
HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

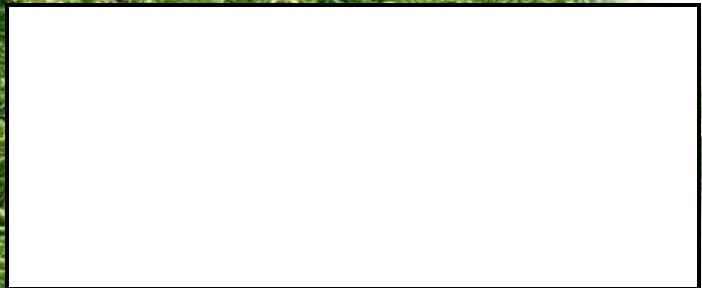
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Sea Rocket Chapter

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Cocoa, FL 32923-6341



GO GREEN! RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL AND SAVE SOME GREEN! GO GREEN!